



Georgia

Deloitte Legal

29 September 2022

Georgian Legal News Refer to the Law

Amendments to the Law "On Broadcasting" passed its first hearing in Parliament

On 20 September 2022, a draft law amending the Law "On Broadcasting" passed its first hearing in Parliament.

The changes aim to meet Association Agreement obligations and implement EU directives on audiovisual media services in Georgian legislation.

The bill envisages effective response mechanisms to the use of hate speech and terrorism incitement and provides regulations for on-demand audiovisual media services and video sharing platforms.

The purpose of the draft law is to preserve cultural diversity, provide access to audiovisual media services for persons with disabilities, protect minors and consumers, ensure media pluralism and effectively respond to the spread of hate speech and programmes and advertisements containing incitement to terrorism.

Parliament has adopted a legislative package prepared for Georgia's integration into the Single Euro Payments Area

On 9 September 2022, Parliament passed a legislative package prepared for Georgia's integration into the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) at its third hearing.

The legislative package combines amendments to 21 different laws, including the Organic Law of Georgia "On the National Bank of Georgia", the Law of Georgia "On the Activities of Commercial Banks", the Law of Georgia "On Payment System and Payment Services" and related legislative acts.

The amendments set forth the standards and regulations that must be met by any country wishing to become a member of SEPA. After joining SEPA, Georgian financial institutions will be allowed to operate in Euro and make cross-border payments, with the same conditions and tariffs applicable for national payments. It will no longer be necessary to use an intermediary bank for transfers to SEPA member countries, which is beneficial for Georgian citizens as well as for companies and businesses.

The legislative changes aim to increase the credibility of Georgian financial sector of in the international arena, expand trade relations with the European economic area, and enable Georgian citizens and companies to enjoy simplified and cheaper services.

Order No. 487 of the Minister of Justice of Georgia Approving Public Registry Guidelines has been amended

On 23 August 2022, the Minister of Justice of Georgia amended Order No. 487 Approving Public Registry Guidelines, whereby the National Agency of the Public Registry will be authorised to identify interested parties and other parties participating in administrative proceedings (witnesses, experts, etc.) by remote identification and verification.

Once the changes come into force, agreements can be concluded at the National Agency of Public Registry using a remote electronic means of communication, provided that direct visual contact between the person authorised to certify signatures and the parties to the agreement has been ensured. The person authorised to verify signatures will identify and confirm the identity of the parties through the remote identification and verification electronic platform.

Signing an agreement using a remote electronic means of communication will be allowed only if the party, participating remotely in a transaction is a citizen or a permanent resident of Georgia and can be identified in the State Services Development Agency electronic database.

The authorized person of the National Agency of the Public Registry will verify the authenticity of the signatures by entering a qualified electronic signature and/or qualified electronic stamp on the document and ensure that the signature verification process for the transaction in question is recorded on a video.

The changes entered into force on 1 September 2022.

Contacts

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